

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 1-21 remain pending. All claims stand provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as copending Application No. 10/662060. The latter application is in fact a duplicate of the present application. Accordingly, Application No. 10/662060. is being expressly abandoned. A duplicate copy of the Letter of Express Abandonment is attached hereto.

As the grounds for the provisional double patenting rejection herein have been obviated, and no other grounds for rejection are outstanding, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully solicited.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 dated March 15, 2004:

Lawrence A Hoffman

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Lawrence A Hoffman
Signature

March 15, 2001

Date of Signature

LAH:sks

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence A Hoffman
Lawrence A Hoffman

Registration No.: 22,436

OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP

1180 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036-8403

Telephone: (212) 382-0700